

Northside Neighborhood Engagement and Opportunities in Clean Water Initiatives

Abstract: This project addresses local water quality issues related to urban runoff pollution in alleyways and provides additional community benefits by actively engaging under-served communities in the Harrison Neighborhood of Minneapolis in an effort to create local expertise in the planning, installation and maintenance of stormwater best management practices (BMPs).

To achieve our project goals we will engage the neighborhood to install BMPs in their backyards and driveways to minimize runoff to the alley and work in collaboration with multiple partners to create youth and young adult career pathways through the project. Outcomes in year 1 include the creation of stormwater master plans that can be used to implement a demonstration installation of stormwater BMPs at 7-10 properties, and to secure local funding for installation of practices throughout the neighborhood in years 2 and 3, where a minimum of 25% of property owners along a single alleyway have agreed to install and maintain recommended practices.

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's recently released Water Management Plan identifies this area as a Priority 1 for water quality programs and Metro Blooms as a provider of education and engagement. BWMC support for the project will be an important leverage for additional Hennepin County (Opportunity Funds) and state funding (Clean Water Fund) for installation. Other potential sources to expand project scope to include apprenticeships and career pathways to green jobs. Potential funding includes the following pending requests to Youthprise (\$150,000 annually for 3 years) and EPA Urban Waters (\$60,000).

Applicant Organization and Potential Partners: Metro Blooms' is the applicant working with the Harrison Neighborhood Association and pursuing multiple partners. Metro Blooms partners with community organizations, citizens, businesses, and local governments to promote, design, install and maintain landscapes with an ecological function. Our do-it-yourself raingarden workshops have educated over 9,000 citizens since 2005. Since 2009 Metro Blooms has worked with over 20 communities throughout the Twin Cities Metro area to install nearly 500 stormwater BMPs, including raingardens, permeable pavement, trench drains, and native plantings. These community-based projects have been successful due to their focus on citizen engagement through neighborhood leadership.

Our first large scale neighborhood project, Powderhorn Lake Neighborhood of Raingardens, was funded through the Minnesota Environmental Trust Fund (\$279,000). It included multiple partners and subcontractors, including the City of Minneapolis, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, among others. The project installed 130 practices (goal: 120-150 properties) and was completed on time and within budget. In 2012, Powderhorn Lake was delisted as a impaired water body and the neighborhood efforts to install raingardens was noted as a contributing factor in the water quality improvements. Awards: 2010 Minnehaha Creek Watershed Hero for Citizen Engagement, 2011 Environmental Initiative Award for Environmental Education.

The ongoing Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water project has received state-funding from the state Clean Water Fund (\$399,000). The City of Minneapolis was the applicant and Metro Blooms is project manager. Metro Blooms secured matching funds from local governments

including the City of Minneapolis (\$35,000), Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (\$100,000) and Hennepin County (\$50,000). By 2017, 160-180 stormwater BMPs will be installed adjacent to alleyways within the Lake Nokomis Watershed.

Staff Expertise/Qualifications/Length of Service: Becky Rice, Executive Director, B.S. Business Finance, Minnesota State University; (2007) Andy Novak, Landscape Designer, MLA University of MN, (2013); Rich Harrison, MLA, University of Minnesota, Registered Landscape Architect (2014); Laura Hurley Scholl, Environmental Program Director, BS in Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Minnesota, (2012).

The Harrison Neighborhood, which is part of the North Minneapolis HUD promise zone, is comprised primarily of people of color and people who are living in conditions of economic poverty. This project is dedicated to ensuring that the expanding community of gardeners and engaged citizens are active participants in helping to restore the ecological function of the neighborhood in a way that ensures environmental justice goals are advanced.

Metropolitan Council, Office of Equal Opportunity has expertise in regard to development of pathways to education and careers: providing a potential \$4,000 in kind technical assistance with a potential \$50,000 cash match to fund installation of the projects.

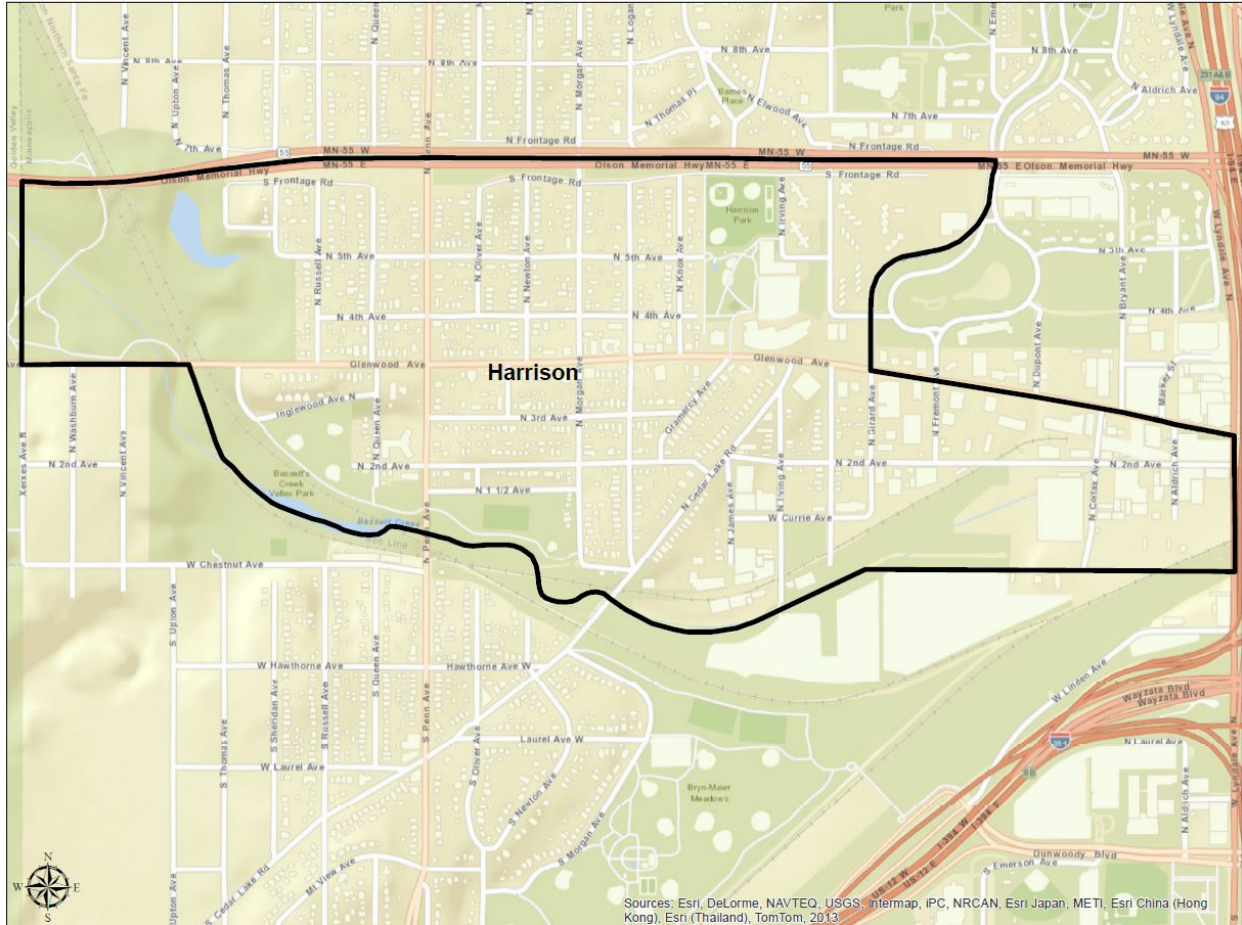
Youth Outdoors Programs: Established youth outdoors programs bring expertise in youth development, job skills training and conservation education, as well as equipment for project activities. This project builds on the effectiveness of two strong programs in the community by expanding their work in the neighborhood.. Youth participate in workforce training and assist with project activities, such as community engagement, leading design charrettes and site consultations. Programs include: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board’s Teen Teamworks/Green Team and Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa.

Preliminary Summary Budget with Potential Sources: Year 1 Water Quality Budget: \$53,000 (Demonstration Installation Contractor Services: \$34,000; Design, Project Management Construction Oversight Services: \$6,960; Engagement, Onsite Consultations, Stormwater Plans: \$12,000).

| | Project | Bassett CreekWMC / MWMO | CFW | Hennepin/ Met Council | Youthprise/ EPA | City of Minneapolis |
|--------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Totals | 993000.00 | 63000.00 | 350000.00 | 100000.00 | 450000.00 | 30000.00 |
| 2016 | 203000.00 | 3000.00 | 0.00 | 50000.00 | 150000.00 | 0.00 |
| 2017 | 428000.00 | 10000.00 | 175000.00 | 33000.00 | 200000.00 | 10000.00 |
| 2018 | 345000.00 | 0.00 | 175000.00 | 10000.00 | 150000.00 | 10000.00 |
| 2019 | 242000.00 | 50000.00 | 175000.00 | 7000.00 | 0.00 | 10000.00 |

Project Area Map:

Harrison Neighborhood, Minneapolis



Project Cost Estimate

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| DEMONSTRATION CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS & | | | | QTY | Unit | Unit Cost | Amount |
|---|--|--|--|------------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Permeable Paver Sections | | | | 895 | sq ft | \$ 31.00 | \$ 27,750.00 |
| Raingardens | | | | 465 | sq ft | \$ 8.00 | \$ 3,740.00 |
| Native Plantings | | | | 200 | sq ft | \$ 6.75 | \$ 1,350.00 |
| Gutters, Downspout Redirection | | | | 5 | properties | \$ 240.00 | \$ 1,200.00 |
| Materials & Labor Subtotal | | | | | | | \$ 34,040.00 |
| DESIGN, PROJECT MANAGEMENT, & CONSTRUCTION | | | | QTY | Unit | Unit Cost | Amount |
| Permeable Pavement Design/Oversight | | | | 8 | flat fee | \$ 325.00 | \$ 2,600.00 |
| Raingarden Design/Oversight | | | | 4 | flat fee (per 150 sq. ft.) | \$ 390.00 | \$ 1,560.00 |
| Native Planting Design/Oversight | | | | 3 | flat fee | \$ 200.00 | \$ 600.00 |
| Construction/Project Management | | | | 9 | flat fee/property | \$ 245.00 | \$ 2,200.00 |
| Design & Oversight Subtotal | | | | | | | \$ 6,960.00 |
| Site Consultations & SWMPs | | | | QTY | Unit | Unit Cost | Amount |
| Site Consultations | | | | 36 | flat fee | \$ 100.00 | \$ 3,600.00 |
| SWMPs + Stormwater Calculations | | | | 36 | flat fee | \$ 150.00 | \$ 5,400.00 |
| Site Consults & SWMPs Subtotal | | | | | | | \$ 9,000.00 |
| Project Total | | | | | | | \$50,000.00 |

*SWMP: Storm Water Management Plan